

The regular monthly meeting of the Altoona Water Authority Board of Directors was held on Thursday, August 24, 2017 in the board room at the Administrative Office. Chairman Schirf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

Mr. Schirf, Mr. Ake, Mr. Neugebauer, Mrs. Marcinko & Mr. Strohm were present, constituting a quorum in accordance with AWA Bylaws. All AWA Board of Directors meetings are conducted in accordance with the PA Sunshine Laws. Also in attendance were Consulting Engineer, Mark Glenn, Solicitor, Alan Krier, AWA Staff, Mark Perry, Mike Sinisi, Gina DeRubeis, Todd Musser and Kathy Gabella.

Guests: Mr. Richard Alberts

Public Comment:

Mr. Alberts stated his name and address as Richard Alberts, 2415 Walton Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602.

Mr. Alberts wanted to put a face to the complaint that he filed with the EEOC against his supervisor. He attempted to give an overview of the complaint. He thanked the board and management for the opportunity to work for the Authority.

Approval of the Minutes:

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2017 meeting. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bellwood Water Treatment Plant Design Upgrades – the pilot study continues at the Bellwood plant and it looks as though there may be another one (1) or two (2) months of additional study time. The feed point to the membrane units has been moved, which was approved by DEP. This is to evaluate raw water beyond the coagulation and flocculation stage where iron and manganese is removed.

A principal method to remove iron and manganese is through the ozone process. This is where ozone gas makes contact with the raw water before it is conditioned with the addition of chemicals. A liquid oxygen system is what is being considered. This would be an onsite process similar to the electrical process currently being used. Testing should be completed by next month.

2. Water Main Replacement Projects – the first project is at N. 4th Avenue and Greeley Street in Juniata. There was 1800 feet of two-inch main replacement completed. This was a combination of a dead end line and a leakage problem. There were twenty-two service connections that have now been connected to the new main. The remainder of the project

consists of 140 feet of ductile iron main along 4th Avenue to do the tie-in to create a loop system and the restoration work.

The other project is Phase II of Grazierville of the eight-inch main replacement along Grazierville road, Grazierville. This project commenced on July 13th and since then 1400 feet of temporary line has been put in place to serve the customer base while the new main was being installed. The new main consists of 1340 feet of eight-inch ductile and two (2) fire hydrants. Fifteen service lines were connected to the new main. The remainder of the project consists of pavement overlay which is scheduled today and tomorrow.

Requisition Approval:

Mr. Schirf asked Mrs. DeRubeis for the Financial Report and the Requisitions/Authorizations. Mrs. DeRubeis gave her report and then asked for approval of the following requisitions.

Requisitions #71-72 Water Division Construction Fund totaling – \$34, 500.40

Requisition #2015-31 Water Division Capital Project Fund totaling - \$19,040.63

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve the requisitions. Mr. Neugebauer seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

New Business:

1. Amend the Right-To-Know Resolution 08-12-512 - Since the passage of this resolution the Authority has changed its name and moved, so there is a need to update the fees for copying right-to-know information.
2. Teledyne Ozone Analyzer – the old system is obsolete and can't be supported anymore. There are seven water treatment plants that will need to be updated with the new system. The Teledyne system was the only one that could match the current equipment. Therefore Teledyne was the only bid received. The equipment is used to monitor ozone concentrations in various points in the process and within the plant.
3. 39th Street and Walnut Avenue – Proposed Sewer Extension Project – the Authority was made aware of seven malfunctioning septic systems in the 39th Street and Walnut Avenue area. Approximately a year ago these residents were sent a letter from their respective municipalities stating their systems are malfunctioning. In an effort to spur activity for this problem area the Altoona Water Authority is designing a proposed collection system to service these residential homes. The Authority may also consider taking on the construction side of the project as well by first bringing the project scope before the Board for approval. Included in the scope will be the cost for each individual connection and construction fee.
4. Deep Row Hybrid Poplar Biosolids Recycling - this is a process where you take unclaimed strip mining land or any land that qualifies for the deep row hybrid poplar program. You dig a trench and fill it with the biosolids and cap it; then plant the hybrid poplars. You then let a space and

make another trench repeating the process and approximately eight to ten years later you harvest the trees and have them chipped. The material that remains in the trench is now like a top soil material. Using this process the Authority may be able to become a biosolids reception point which would create a new revenue source.

The Authority is working with a company called Material Matters which is a consultant firm that specializes in material, biosolids, grit and silt management. Representatives from the firm met with staff. They looked over some of the maps and are very positive about the ability to do this program.

Resolutions:

1. Resolution #17-08-857 to amend resolution #08-12-512 to conform to the Authority's name change, address change and to increase copying fees for Right-To-Know requests.

Mr. Neugebauer made a motion to approve resolution #17-08-857. Mrs. Marcinko seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to award the Teledyne Ozone Analyzer for Plane Nine to the only bidder, Teledyne API, with a bid price of \$44,480.00. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Other Business:

None

Media Questions

The board and staff addressed questions from Bill Kibler from the Altoona Mirror.

Executive Session:

An executive session was called at 9:52 for legal and personnel issues.

Adjournment:

No further business was brought before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Administrative Office Building located at 900 Chestnut Avenue.



Secretary/Assistant Secretary

/klg